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CLAIMS

1   1.   A method for establishing the concealment order of macroblocks in a rectangular
2   array of having opposed sides, comprising the step of:
3   concealing the macroblocks having missing/corrupted pixel values by progressing in a
4   direction of one of the larger of the sides of the array.

1   2.   The method according to claim 1 comprising the step of progressively concealing
2   in opposite directions towards each of the two larger sides of the array until reaching a central
3   portion of the array.

1   3.   A method of concealing macroblocks in a rectangular array of N rows and M
2   columns where N is larger than M, comprising the step of:
3   concealing macroblocks having missing/corrupted pixel values by progressing
4   horizontally by rows in at least one of a top-down and bottom up directions.

1   4.   The method according to claim 3 wherein concealment progresses horizontally by
2   · rows simultaneously in a top-down direction and in a bottom-up direction.

1   5.   The method according to claim 3 wherein concealment progresses horizontally by
2   rows exclusively in a top-down direction.

1   6.   The method according to claim 3 wherein concealment progresses horizontally by
2   rows exclusively in a bottom-up direction.

1   7.   The method according to claim 3 wherein macroblocks in each row are scanned in
2   one of a left-to-right direction and a right-to-left direction.

1   8.   The method according to claim 7 where the macroblocks in successive rows are
2   alternately scanned from left-to-right and right-to-left.

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1   9.   The method according to claim 3 wherein the macroblocks in all rows are
2   concealed from left-to-right.

1   10.   The method according to claim 3 wherein the macroblocks in all rows are
2   concealed from right-to-left.

1   11.   The method according to claim 5 wherein macroblocks are concealed in even
2   rows from left-to-right.

1   12.   The method according to claim 5 wherein macroblocks are concealed in odd rows
2   from right-to-left.

1   13.   The method according to claim 5 wherein macroblocks are concealed in even
2   rows from right-to-left.

1   14.   The method according to claim 5 wherein macroblocks are concealed in odd rows
2   from left-to-right.

1   15.   The method according to claim 3 further comprising the steps of:
2   arranging a non-rectangular array of macroblocks having missing/corrupted pixel values
3   into at least two rectangular sub-arrays of macroblocks prior to undertaking concealment, and
4   concealing each of sub-arrays independently.